

do was to show that you could do the job, you could do a very fine job, and that you had suffered grievously from the base closing process. That, I think, was the right thing to do.

The second thing we did was to change the rules for how we handled these bases. Under the old rule, we could give away bases free, as I said, for new parks but not for new jobs. Under our plan we give planning grants to communities that put together groups like this; we speed up the environmental cleanup; we cut a lot of the redtape, and we focus on creating new jobs.

As you know, about 1,300 acres, if I remember my briefing right, has already been approved here for your new San Bernardino International Airport. There will be a few other acres approved in the course of this year for good public purposes, dealing with parks and education and other problems that you have. And we are working now on the negotiations for the transfer of the land which will permit economic development of all kinds.

The thing I want to say to you is that normally when a politician comes to a place like this, the emphasis is on what we are giving to you. And what we gave to you here was the DFAS center. Now, I'm proud of that, but you got it because you deserve it. You got it because you lost a base and because you have the capacity to do it.

But over the long run—and I predict 10 years from now you all will look back on this and agree with me—as important as that DFAS center is, the far more important thing we have done is to change the rules by which this base is given back to you because that empowers you to create your own future with a resource that rightfully belongs to you. And you should be very proud of that today.

When I leave here, I'm going over to UCLA to speak at their convocation, and I'll try to remember that the most important thing for young people at graduation time is that the speaker be brief. [Laughter] But I'll be thinking about you over there and the spirit of John and Jackie Kennedy and the simple idea that the future is something that none of us can ever take for granted, that we always have to make for ourselves, for our children, and for our grandchildren.

If I could leave that legacy as President, if I could make the American people feel good about embracing the changes that we're confronting, instead of feeling threatened by them, and believe again that by pulling together across all the lines that divide us, we can solve our problems and seize our opportunities, that would be a legacy worth leaving. More important than any specific project, my fellow Americans, we have to believe in our better selves again. We cannot be, we cannot be distracted, divided, diverted, dragged down. This is a time for uplift, for looking to the future, and for pulling together. You have proved that it works. Let us do it for all America.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:32 a.m. at the San Bernardino International Airport. In his remarks, he referred to Jerry Eaves, county supervisor and chair of the Reuse Project; Swen Larson, president, International Airport Authority, San Bernardino International Airport; and Mayor Tom Minor. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Army Readiness for Regional Conflict

May 20, 1994

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

As required in section 403 of the 1994 National Defense Authorization Act, I am hereby certifying that the Army is capable of providing sufficient forces (excluding forces engaged in peacekeeping operations and other operations other than war) to carry out two major regional conflicts nearly simultaneously, in accordance with the National Military Strategy.

Moreover, the attached report specifies the active Army units anticipated to deploy within the first 75 days in response to a major regional conflict that are currently engaged in peacekeeping operations and other operations other than war. The report also specifies my estimate of the time required to redeploy and retrain those forces.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

May 14

In the morning, the President traveled to Indianapolis, IN. Following his arrival, he met with Prime Minister Albert Reynolds of Ireland at the Mount Helm Baptist Church.

In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced that the Congressional Medal of Honor would be presented posthumously in a White House ceremony on May 23 to M. Sgt. Gary I. Gordan and Sfc. Randall D. Shughart, who were killed in action in Mogadishu, Somalia, on October 3, 1993.

May 18

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert A. Pastor to be Ambassador to the Republic of Panama.

The President announced his intention to nominate John Shattuck, Ashton Carter, and Charles Meissner as members of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

May 19

The President announced his appointment of Benjamin O. Davis and Jeffrey H. Smith as members of the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy.

May 20

In the morning, the President traveled to San Bernardino, CA.

In the afternoon, he traveled to Los Angeles, CA, where he attended the 75th anniversary convocation at the University of California, Los Angeles.

In the evening, the President attended a reception for Senator Dianne Feinstein at a private residence in Beverly Hills.

The President announced his intention to nominate Harold A. Monteau to be Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission and the appointment of Lacy H. Thornburg to serve as an associate member of the Commission.

The President announced the appointment of James W. Wold as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense and Director of the Defense Prisoners of War/Missing in Action Office.

The White House announced the President will meet with President Abdou Diouf of Senegal on May 23 at the White House.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted May 16

Mary Ann Casey, of Colorado, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Tunisia.

Submitted May 17

Stephen G. Breyer, of Massachusetts, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, vice Harry A. Blackmun.

Michael Nacht, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, vice Linton F. Brooks, resigned.

Amy Sands, of California, to be an Assistant Director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, vice Manfred Eimer.